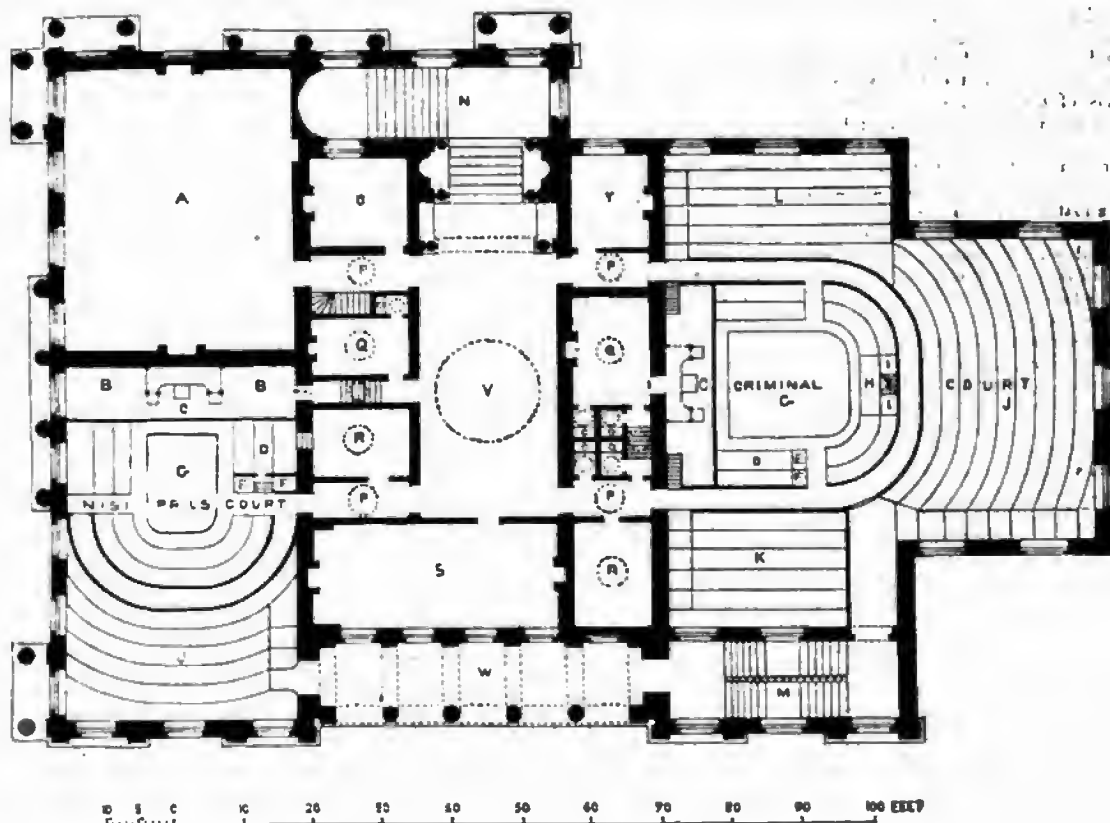


PLAN OF GUILDHALL AND ASSIZE COURTS, SWANSEA.



Burnley.—A new chapel was opened on Good Friday, and is thus particularised by the *Preston Guardian*:—"The foundation stone was laid on 25th December, 1850, and the edifice has gradually risen, under the superintendence of Mr. J. Green, architect. Mr. R. Smith was the mason; Mr. Parker, joiner; Messrs. J. Radcliffe and Son, plasterers; and Mr. H. Berry, glazier. The principal front of the building is in White Lion-street, is in the Italian palatial style of architecture, and consists of projecting centre, triple circular-headed windows, pick dressed, frosted, and channelled rustics, moulded string course, central window over, the whole enriched with Corinthian columns, pilasters, and projecting balconies. Each of the front doors is approached by a large broad flight of steps, and is arched with polished channelled rustics and moulded key-stones. The whole front is surmounted with a bold cornice, supported on blocks. The sides are built in a plain style. Under the chapel is a schoolroom, with vestries, or classrooms. The cost of the building will be about 2,700*l.*: it will accommodate about 1,000 persons, and may be said to be the first chapel built in the town by the General Baptists of Burnley. The warming of the building is on a new and scientific principle, for whilst it heats, it at the same time ventilates it. No matter how large the edifice may be, it will on this principle be warmed in two hours, whilst half the fuel used in the ordinary apparatus will not be consumed. This invention (for invention we are informed it is), has been the result of the patient study of our townsman Mr. Thomas Atkinson, whitesmith."

Kirkthorpe (near Wakefield).—On Thursday week, the church, which has been almost entirely rebuilt, was re-opened for public worship by the Bishop of Ripon. An unsightly gallery has been removed, and the body of the church fitted up with open stalls. The chancel has been laid with encaustic tiles, and a stained glass window, the purchase of a separate subscription, placed at the east end of the church. The work has been executed from a design by Messrs. Perkin and Backhouse, of Leeds, architects.

Dover.—The increasing population of the town, says the local *Gazette*, and the greater

consumption of gas, have rendered it necessary for the committee to add an additional gasometer to their works. The boundary wall was let to Mr. Robinson, Fisher-gate; and at a meeting of the committee on Monday last the tenders for the gasometer were opened. All the tenders were within 1*l.* of each other, two being of the same amount. The expenditure involves the sum of nearly 600*l.* The committee unanimously agreed that the tender of Mr. Knapton, of York, should be accepted.

Merrington.—Through the liberality of the Dean of Durham, Archdeacon Thorp, and others, according to the *Gateshead Observer*, Merrington Church has been rebuilt. The architect employed was Mr. George Pickering, of Durham. The contractors for the masonry were Messrs. B. Adamson and Son, of Whickham; and for the carpentry and joiner-work, Mr. Martin Dunn, of Gateshead.

Wigan.—The committee to carry out the erection of the proposed public hall have unanimously chosen the plans drawn by Mr. R. Lane, of Manchester, architect.

Ormskirk.—A project has been started for the construction of a pier or jetty at Southport, to extend from some part of the promenade to low water. The undertaking is to consist of 4,000 shares at 1*l.* each. Nearly 600 shares were taken at the meeting lately held to start the project.

SWANSEA GUILDHALL AND ASSIZE COURTS.

THIS new building has been recently finished, and was used at the late assizes, as well as by the town council. A description of it appeared in our pages on 13th ult. under head of "Notes in the Provinces." The work was commenced in 1848. The walls are built of stone from quarries in the vicinity, the fronts, however, being wholly cased with Bath stone. The walls of entrance-hall, principal staircase, and vestibule, are entirely finished in Martin's cement. The porticoes of the two fronts, supported by full and three-quarter columns, with capitals sculptured, are after those of the Corinthian temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome. The principal staircases leading to the vestibule consists of two flights of stone steps 10 feet in width,

and on the right and left of the upper flight there is an arrangement of Doric columns and pilasters supporting an entablature, having niches between for statues. The ceiling is coiled and paneled. The vestibule is above 40 feet in length, and 20 feet in breadth, lighted from a dome in the centre, and forms the approach to the two law courts, council-chamber, judges' rooms, justices' and juries' rooms, and barristers' robing-rooms. Under the courts are the various offices for corporation officers, local Board of Health, and fire-proof munition-rooms; and under the criminal court there are cells for prisoners. The whole of the works were erected under the immediate superintendence of the architect, Mr. Thomas Taylor, of London, by Mr. R. Richards, of Swansea.

The following references will explain the plan of the building:—

- A Council-chamber.
- B Magistrates.
- C Judge.
- D Jury-box.
- E Witness.
- F Crier.
- G Counsel's table.
- H Dock.
- I Officer.
- J Public gallery.
- K Gallery for jury and witnesses in waiting.
- L Gallery for magistrates.
- M Public staircase.
- N Entrance-hall and principal staircase.
- O Consultation-room.
- P Lobby.
- Q Judge's room.
- R Jury's retiring-room.
- S Grand jury and witnesses' waiting-room.
- T Bar robing-room.
- V Vestibule.
- W Corridor of communication for the public between the two courts.

BUILDING-WORKS IN PARIS.—The work of demolition is going on rapidly in Paris. Battering-rams are letting daylight into the filthy courts and lanes near the Hotel de Ville, and the demolitions for prolonging and improving the Rue des Mathurins, St. Jacques, are going on rapidly. The demolition of these houses has brought to light a Gothic chapel of the end of the thirteenth century.